

CONGRESSWOMAN CELEBRATES
DR. EDMUND GRAY, RECIPIENT
OF THE 2013 SISTER PETER
CLAVER AWARD

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Edmund Gray, recipient of the 2013 Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center's Sister Peter Claver Award.

In receiving this reward, Dr. Gray joins the ranks of many like himself who have gone out of their way to help and serve others, doing it humbly and without seeking recognition.

The Sister Peter Claver Award is given in honor of its namesake each year. Sister Peter Claver gave over twenty years of her life to the Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, Washington. She led this institution by her example of charity, service, and integrity. Today, Dr. Ed Gray exemplifies the mission and message of Sister Peter Claver.

Dr. Gray became a rural family practice physician in 1953. Working at Providence Mount Carmel Hospital in Colville, he cared for outpatients, delivered babies, and performed surgery. During his five decades of practice, Dr. Gray served in regional and statewide leadership roles to improve sanitation, vaccination, and other public health policies that affect eastern Washington State.

Access to quality medical care was always a priority for Dr. Gray. He helped to develop the first Basic Health plan in Washington State. This plan expanded access to those who could not afford coverage.

He worked with the University of Washington to develop a rural medicine training track that would teach student physicians about the special health care needs of people living in rural communities. Dr. Gray was a role model for many physicians.

So today, I rise to acknowledge and thank Dr. Gray for his compassionate service to the citizens of eastern Washington. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Ed Gray on receiving the "Sister Peter Claver Award" and in thanking him.

HONORING MS. SARA LOMAX-
REESE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Ms. Sara Lomax-Reese. A graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, Ms. Lomax-Reese is the President and General Manager of WURD Radio LLC, Pennsylvania's only African-American owned talk radio station.

Ms. Lomax-Reese is an accomplished journalist who has been widely published in The Miami Herald, The Philadelphia Inquirer, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Essence Magazine, American Visions Magazine, and Modern Maturity. Additionally, she co-founded HealthQuest: Total Wellness for Body, Mind,

and Spirit, the first nationally circulated African-American consumer health magazine in the country. Due to her outstanding leadership abilities, the magazine quickly grew from a small 25,000 quarterly to a bi-monthly publication with a distribution of 500,000. She has received many awards for her dedication to her community, including the Woman of Substance Award, the Tree of Life award, the Beacon of Light award, the Woman of Distinction award, and most recently the PECO Power to the Community Award. Ms. Lomax-Reese stands committed to continuing her work of empowering the community and building a powerful voice for the African-American community at WURD radio.

It is a privilege to recognize a person whose leadership and commitment to our city has enriched the lives of countless individuals. I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Ms. Lomax-Reese for her lifetime of service and dedication to Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

TO RECOGNIZE ARIA HEALTH

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Aria Health has been providing quality medical care to residents of the Philadelphia region since July 4th, 1903 when it began as Frankford Hospital in Northeast Philadelphia.

In the 110 years that have followed, Aria Health has grown to six facilities—three inpatient and three outpatient—and is the largest healthcare provider in the Northeast Philadelphia and Lower Bucks County area. Through that time it has continued to serve the medical needs of millions in the Philadelphia and Bucks County regions with the same commitment to care as the day they were founded.

I rise today in recognition of their continued service to our communities, and congratulate them on their reception of the Crystal Vision Award—given each year by the Greater Northeast Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce.

This award is a testament to the lasting impression Aria—its physicians, nurses and staff—have left on the lives of those they have, and continue to help. I am pleased to join with members of the Chamber in recognizing Aria for their accomplishments and wish them constant success in the future as they continue to care for our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 908TH AIRLIFT WING

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today Mrs. ROBY and I ask for the House's attention to honor the 908th Airlift Wing, an Air Force Reserve Command wing located at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama.

What is now known as the 908th Airlift Wing began as the 908th Troop Carrier Group at

Bates Field, Mobile, Alabama on February 11, 1963. Six years later, the 908th moved to Maxwell Air Force Base, where it remains today.

The mission of the 908th Airlift Wing is to recruit, organize and train Air Force reservists to provide unrivaled theater airlift and flexible combat support across the spectrum of military operations.

During its 50 years, the 908th has followed its mission with a dedication to excellence. Its members have served in operations and humanitarian relief efforts at home and abroad. The 908th has an impeccable safety record with over 150,000 hours logged over 47 years without a Class A or B mishap. Since 2003 the men and women of the 908th have logged over 10,500 combat flight hours in overseas missions.

During their 50 years, the 908th has been awarded some of the US Air Force's highest honors. The men and women of the 908th are seven time winners of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. They finished FY 2013 with a 90.4 percent aircraft mission capable rate, among the highest ever recorded for a C-130 unit. They were also named the 2012 Small Command Post of the Year for two commands, AFRC and AETC. Their 2012 virtual inspection was the best the Inspector General had seen to date. In 2012, they had 78 Programs rated excellent and 8 Superior performers, which was more than any other wing.

The 908th will celebrate its 50th anniversary on December 7th with a celebration in Montgomery. The 908th has been widely recognized as an elite unit, one in which its members consider it a privilege to serve. It is an honor to join the state of Alabama in congratulating the 908th Airlift Wing on 50 years of excellence.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS LEGAL SUPPORT ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, at a time when 900,000 veterans and 5,000 active duty service members face Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program cuts, I introduce a bill to allow the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide financial support to law school clinical programs that provide pro bono legal and support services to veterans, including, among other things, assistance with disability claims and appeals and foreclosures. The enormous backlog of disability claims at the VA and homelessness among veterans remain critical problems for our veterans. Approximately 107,000 veterans are homeless on any given night in this country and over 600,000 veterans are waiting for their disability claims to be processed by the VA. Providing clinical programs with the resources to assist veterans can result in faster processing of claims and quicker housing assistance to our veterans, who have repeatedly put their lives on the line for this country.

This bill, introduced by my colleagues Senators JEANNE SHAHEEN, AMY KLOBUCHAR and CHRIS MURPHY in the Senate, would allow the